

March 21 1945  
71 Crawford St.  
Newark 2 N. Jersey

Mr & Mrs Newcombe  
944 E. Grand St.  
Elizabeth N.J.

Dear Friends:

It is very difficult to write this letter. I hardly know how to start. I hope you will believe me it is written in the interest of your son only, and not my business investment.

I am sure Donald has told you by now, he is not satisfied with the contract offered him by The Eagles this year, and has returned it unsigned. I long ago developed the feeling no ball player is indispensable. Uncle Sam has taken so many of our best men that I have developed an immunity. In addition we are used to the ballplayers staying out of the games for injuries etc. I am writing you because I know in the case of Donald some one is misleading him. He is being advised very poorly.

He was into the office last week, and I showed him a letter I had just written to Mackey (one of the all time great Negro catchers) asking him to come to us this year, mainly to help Newcombe. We have agreed to pay him a very big salary because we know he will be a help to young inexperienced ballplayers. I believe Donald has the makings of one of the outstanding pitchers, but he has a lot to learn, and a long way to go. One of the most tragic things about his present conduct, is the fact that he is showing a big head. That is bad. His record with this team for last year shows he won none and lost four league games. He won six and lost one exhibition games. This does not include games he started and was taken out of with some one else getting credit for winning or losing. This record does not put a pitcher in a position to demand a salary increase.

In spite of this I offered him an increase of \$30.00 making his salary \$200.00 a month, and was willing to go to the expense of paying a man who I felt could help him a big salary. I am writing you because I know no one is more interested in his future than you his parents. If you care to discuss the matter with me further, I will be glad to talk to you. Whatever happens I wish Donald the best of luck, but I do hate to see him getting off so completely on the wrong foot.

If Donald does not play with us this year will you please remind him he owes me \$35.00. Will be glad to hear from you.

Very Truly Yours